



GELDESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of the Parish Council

Draft Minutes

Held in the Village Hall

Wednesday 8 July 2026, 7.30pm.

Parish Councillors Present: R Fogerty (RF), A Wade (AW), P Cracknell (PC), J Ashfield (JA), S Salt (SS)

Also present: Tina Bunn, Parish Clerk, Cllr G Boyd, Cllr C Brown (left after item 6d)

1. Welcome

All were welcomed to the meeting.

2. Chairman's Welcome

- a. To receive apologies for absence.

There were no apologies for absence.

- b. To receive declarations of interest and dispensations:

- To receive declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other interests for councillors on items on the agenda

Declaration of interests were made by RF and JA in relation to the Poors Trust as they are trustees.

RF declared an interest in the drains item as it is outside his property.

JA declared an interest in the Footpath item.

- To receive and consider written requests for dispensations for Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and those previously granted.

None

- c. To record the number of members of the public present.

There were three members of the public present.

3. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 May 2026 were agreed as a true record

Prop AW, Sec JA

Approved (Unanimous)

4. Chairpersons Report

The chair noted that the footpath along the River Waveney had been in the news lately and he hoped that this might lead to progress on improvements.

Enquiries have been made to NCC Highways in respect of the traffic counters installed on Stockton Road, A143 etc to see if they have been installed by them, the chair was advised that they do not require permission and are likely to be the work of consultants working for a developer.

5. New issues

Suspend Standing Orders for Reports from the County Councillors and District Councillors.

Cllr Boyd briefed on his written report, updating on the PCC election, the key roles and those candidates up for election. He provided an update on the Local Government Reorganisation and advised that on 25 June 2026 Norfolk County Council (under its new Reform UK administration) formally submitted a judicial review application to the High Court challenging the Government's decision making process. He updated on changes to Funding Schemes, the Highways Local Member Fund will not continue for new proposals this financial year, the funding is reallocated to highways maintenance. The Norfolk Community Fund will not proceed, the funding is being transferred to Norfolk Fire and Rescue. NCC will shortly launch a £3.2m grant funding scheme for the VCSE sector, once it is launched local groups may apply.

Following a major fire at a local electrical waste processing facility there are temporary restrictions on the acceptance of some electrical items at recycling centres. Updates to this will be available on the NCC website.

The CEO at NCC has resigned, an interim has been appointed and recruitment is pending.

The steps at the footpath at Dunburgh will be repaired this month, there is still confusion as to who is responsible for the footpath (from Dunburgh to Geldeston), Cllr Boyd is following up,

Cllr Brown advised that LGR preparations are ongoing at South Norfolk DC, a voluntary meeting has been held by the councils make the new bodies. SNDC are challenging the process taken to go to three unitary authorities, a decision is likely in the Autumn. The Greater Norwich Local Plan is progressing and there is a call for new sites. Food waste collections will start shortly.

- a. **Parish 10** - The meeting will be adjourned for public participation, 3 minutes per member for items to be discussed on the agenda only.

A question was raised about the SAM machine and if the other Parish Council Partner had also decided to remove the SAM. It was understood that this was the case.

Future agenda item – to promote '20 is plenty' signage to discourage speeding.

It was requested that a summary of the minutes are included in Tidings magazine.

There are potholes at the crossroad to Kells Way.

Resume Standing Orders.

6. Matters arising from last meeting and outstanding actions, discuss and agree:

a. Footpaths

The Chair has followed up with Rev Smith with regard to the letter sent to the Rev Smith on 11 February 2026 and was told that the PPC were dealing with it and they had referred it to the Diocese. If no response has been received by the next meeting the Parish Council will consider making an application.

Contracts have been awarded by NCC to repair the steps at Dunburgh which should commence this month.

Nothing further has been heard from the landowner in respect of repairs to the Dyke, he has been provided with information about a grant scheme available.

The Ramblers Association have suggested that the Parish Council publish an audit of the public rights of way on our website. Input is requested to assist with this.

b. Application for Green Project to become a Village Green

The Chair has sworn a declaration in support of the application and this will be filed soon.

c. Progress on registration of land

This work is ongoing, it was noted that there may be costs associated with obtaining information from the Land Registry.

d. Environment Agency Update

The Chair advised that there is now a direct contact at Northumberland Water (the parent company of Essex and Suffolk Water). He has volunteered to come along to a future Parish Council meeting and this will be confirmed.

e. Application for the footpath to be included on the definitive map

This was discussed at item 6a and will be removed from future agendas.

f. Tree Inspections.

This is pending.

g. Asset Inspection

No update, remove from future agendas.

h. Repairs to Waveney Dyke

Dealt with at item 6a, remove from future agenda.

i. Allotments

Letters have been sent to three allotment holders who are in breach of the allotment agreement. One has decided to cease their tenancy. If nothing is heard from the others within the 30 day period then the process will be commenced to end their tenancy.

7. Finance

a. To update on the insurance quotation and retrospectively authorise payment.

Further information had been received in respect of the quotation agreed at the last meeting which meant that the three year proposal was not as cost effective as originally thought. Therefore the insurance has been renewed for one year only at a cost of £594.29.

Agreed by email and approved at this meeting.

b. To approve invoices for payment

Keys for the noticeboard £20.00

Declaration in respect of the Village Green £13.00

Land Registry Fee £14.00

Approved

c. To discuss and approve training for the Clerk and Parish Councillors

A refund will be obtained in respect of the allotment seminar as no-one is now able to attend.

d. To report on bank accounts and balances

See Statement of Account

e. To discuss the finances and reserves moving forward.

There are sufficient reserves currently.

Statement of Account as at 30/6/26

b/f from 31/03/2026

Unity Instant Access Savings	£11,129.04
Unity Current Account	£8,963.41
	£20,092.45
Running total	£20,092.45

Statement of Account as at 30/06/26

Bank Balance @ 30/06/26

Unity Current Account	£12,718.22
Unity Instant Access savings	£11,183.15
	£23,901.37

Payments 01/04/26-30/06/26

Payment

23/04/2026	HMRC	£202.80
30/04/2026	Salary Clerk	£293.74
30/04/2026	Unity Bank	£7.00
11/05/2026	Waveney IDB	£12.57
22/05/2026	Geldeston Village Hall	£154.00
22/05/2026	NALC	£102.68
22/05/2026	Norfolk Parish Training and Support	£62.40
29/05/2026	Salary Clerk	£293.94
31/05/2026	Unity Bank	£7.00
10/06/2026	CAS Insurance Services	£594.28
10/06/2026	Heelis and Lodge	£185.00
12/06/2026	Westcotec	£54.00
16/06/2026	Poors Allotment	£100.00
22/06/2026	Anglian Water (Wave)	£37.84
30/06/2026	Salary Clerk	£293.94
30/06/2026	Unity Bank	£7.00

Total £2,408.19

Received Current Account

27/04/2026	South Norfolk DC Precept	5963.00
26/06/2026	South Norfolk DC Recycling	200.00
Total		£6,163.00

Received Savings Account

30/06/2026	Unity Interest	54.11
Total		£54.11

Reserves

Unity Instant Access Savings	£11,183.15
expenditure to year end (as per budget)	£9,649.96
Allocated reserves *	£106.00
General reserves	£2,962.26

£23,901.37

* Minute from 25/11/25 meeting
The budget for 2026-27 is agreed at £12,032. A 10% increase in the 2025-26 precept would be £11,926 and any excess expenditure would be covered by income and allocated reserves.

8. To discuss and agree village matters:

a. Potholes

There are significant potholes at the side of the road at 82-84 The Street.

Action – clerk to report.

b. Drains

The drains in the road outside 54 – 62 The Street do not seem to be working.

Action – clerk to report.

9. Updates from village committees & groups

An inspection to the play area will be undertaken next week.

10. Planning applications and other planning matters

- a. South Norfolk District Council Planning applications.

Application Number : 2026/1609

App Type : Works to trees in Conservation Area

Parish : Geldeston

Grid Ref : 638696 292012

Location : 22 Kells Way Geldeston Norfolk NR34 0LU

Proposal : T1- Cherry tree - Remove ivy and dead wood. Reduce lowest NW branch by 3-4m to suitable growth points. Canopy reduction up to 3m. Reduce eastern lowest limb by 3-4m.

Action – clerk to enquire if there are any reports from the council tree officer or a tree surgeon in respect of this application.

- b. Village Clusters – report update if available

None

- c. To discuss any SNC additional planning applications, received before the meeting.

None

- d. Broads Authority Planning Applications.

None

- e. To discuss any additional planning applications for BA, received before the meeting.

None

The meeting ended at 8.27

Date of next parish meeting: 9 September , 7.30pm

Other dates for 2026/27

11 November 2026

13 January 2027

10 March 2027

12 May 2027